

Minutes of Tree & Forest Committee Meeting

Saturday June 19, 2021 at Laston Park Outdoors.

1. Call to order at 11:15am after members weeded trees. Attendance: Jim Neureuther, George Kellar, Lisa Dachinger. Absent: Eammon Coughlin and Bill Carr
2. Minutes from Oct 15, 2020 were approved.
3. Treasurer's Report since Oct 15, 2020
 - i. FY2021 Town Operations Account. \$1000 Beginning Balance 9/10/2020,
 - ii. Expenses
 1. \$193.81. Supplies to make Tree signs
 2. \$205 Katsura Tree from Zema's Nursery
 3. \$169 Camperdown Elm Tree from Zema's Nursery
 4. \$79.95 Red Buckeye Tree from Zema's Nursery
 5. \$148.99 Paperbark Maple Tree from Whitney's Farm Market
 - iii. \$203.25 Ending Balance 6/19/2021
 - iv. Tree Committee Deposits Account. \$4,371.49 Balance 9/10/2020
 1. \$250 total donations deposits from Fraker, Spatz, Hauge
 - v. \$4,621.49 ending balance 6/19/2021
4. Committee Elections
 - a. At first meeting after annual Town Meeting, Tree Committee bylaws say election of chairperson and secretary should be held. Jim Neureuther was nominated and elected as chairperson. George Kellar was nominated and elected as Secretary.
5. Tree Status/Planting/Maintenance
 - a. Tree Inventory. (5 trees lost. 4 trees planted)
 - i. RIP. 2 Armstrong Maple Rt7 at bus depot taken down by Utility. Striped Maple at Laston by the brook went missing in Spring (uprooted by unknown person or ??). Paperbark Maple at Laston failed to emerge this spring. Resprout at root. Black Birch at Laston failed to emerge this spring.
 - ii. Red buckeye, Camperdown Elm, Katsura planted at Laston on May 20 by committee and watered 5/21, 6/7, 6/15. Replacement Paperbark Maple planted June 19.
 - iii. Trees at Laston weeded by committee May 17. Mulching all trees Laston, LES, Memorial park is needed after weeding. Also tree rings at Laston should be enlarged to stop mower compaction. Jim will contact Conservation Commission to see if a pile of mulch can be stored at Laston.
6. eNewsletter. Plan to issue an enews for Aug Town online report.
7. Other Business
 - a. Town Planning Board negotiated gift to plant trees in return for mature trees taken down by 3 approved solar projects. Gift will be equivalent value of 2.5" caliper tree for each acre (approx. 50 acres) of projects. Goal is to create an account controlled by Tree & Forest Committee from which we can plant future trees. Cemetery off Prospect St needs privacy break.
 - b. Volunteer time (56 hrs. YTD as of 6/18/21)